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SOURCE Documentary as indicated. (Information specifically requested.)

RECENTLY PUBLISHED RESEARCH OF THE MOSCOW INSTITUTE OF SERUM CONTROL, USSR

"Specifice Polysaccharides From Proteus O_{19}, O_{X2} and O_K," A. M. Kusin, N. A. Nevrayeva, E. ?. Alisova, Moscow Inst Serum Control

"Biokhimiya" Vol 10, 1945, pp 269-78

Strain of Proteus bacilli known as X_{19} is agglutinated in serums of typhus patients. Strain X_2 is not agglutinated, whereas X_K is agglutinated only in serums of certain types of typhus fever. Since antigen specifity depends on structure of polysaccharide, differences existing in polysaccharides of the respective organisms X_{19}, X_2 and X_K were determined. Analysis of polysaccharides extracted by three different methods checked perfectly. Serum agglutinations were obtained when polysaccharides were used in dilutions up to 1:5,000,000. Chemical analysis shows that polysaccharide from Proteus X_{19} differs from that of X_2 as follows: The X_{19} contains about 50% glucosamine, whereas the X_2 polysaccharide contains none. On acid hydrolysis, the X_{19} yields more reducing substances than the X_2. Free amino groups are absent in the X_{19} polysaccharide, but are present in the X_2 polysaccharide. The X_K polysaccharide occupies an intermediate position; it contains about half the glucosamine and a fifth of the free amino groups as X_{19}. Only those Proteus polysaccharides which contain glucosamine can act as antigens in typhus infections.

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